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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed, and reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

CLAIM REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-8 were originally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Luquire, Isenhardt, Contact or Bibollet.

Responsive to this, claims 5 and 8 are deleted and claim 1 is amended which is substantially the combination of original claims 1, 5 and 8 so as to make the claimed invention more distinguishably patentable over the prior art references cited by the Examiner. Applicant also submits the following comments.

The claimed invention teaches "a hanging chain structure, comprising a plurality of hanging rings connected with each other, each of the hanging rings including a hook body, and a stop member pivotally mounted on the hook body, wherein: the hook body of each of the hanging rings has a first end formed with a pivot seat and a second end formed with a locking block, the locking block of the hook body is formed with a locking recess; the stop member of each of the hanging rings has a first end pivotally mounted on the pivot seat of the hook body and a second end provided with a retaining pin inserted into and locked in the locking recess of the locking block of the hook body; the pivot seat of the hook body of each of the hanging rings has a periphery formed with a limiting notch; the first end of the stop member of each of the hanging rings is formed with a receiving recess for receiving the pivot seat of the hook body; the stop member of each of the hanging rings has an inside having a mediate portion formed with a cylindrical receiving chamber extended to and communicated with the receiving recess; each of the hanging rings further includes a cylindrical elastic plate mounted in the receiving chamber of

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the stop member and having a distal end extended into and locked in the limiting notch of the pivot seat, and a spring mounted in the receiving chamber of the stop member and having a first end urged on a wall of the receiving chamber of the stop member and a second end urged on the elastic plate” as disclosed in the amended claim 1.

In addition, the claimed invention also teaches “the locking block of the hook body has two opposite flattened faces, the second end of the stop member is formed with a receiving recess for receiving the locking block of the hook body when the retaining pin is inserted into the locking recess of the locking block, and the receiving recess of the second end of the stop member has two opposite flattened faces rested on the opposite flattened faces of the locking block of the hook body” as disclosed in the amended claim 7 of the claimed invention.

In comparison, none of the Luquire, Isenhardt, Contact and Bibollet references teaches “the stop member of each of the hanging rings has an inside having a mediate portion formed with a cylindrical receiving chamber extended to and communicated with the receiving recess” as disclosed in the amended claim 1 of the claimed invention.

In addition, none of the Luquire, Isenhardt, Contact and Bibollet references teaches “each of the hanging rings further includes a cylindrical elastic plate mounted in the receiving chamber of the stop member and having a distal end extended into and locked in the limiting notch of the pivot seat” as disclosed in the amended claim 1 of the claimed invention.

Further, none of the Luquire, Isenhardt, Contact and Bibollet references teaches “the locking block of the hook body has two opposite flattened faces, and the receiving recess of the second end of the stop member has two opposite flattened faces rested on the opposite flattened faces of the locking block of the hook body” as disclosed in the amended claim 7 of the claimed invention.

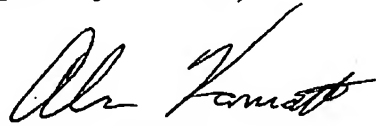
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Therefore, from the above mentioned descriptions, it is apparent that the claimed invention has disclosed a hanging chain structure whose construction and function are quite different from and patentably distinguishable over that of the Luquire, Isenhart, Contact and Bibollet references. It is believed that the Luquire, Isenhart, Contact and Bibollet references, whether taken alone or in combination with each other, do not provide the elements and objectives as are disclosed in the claimed invention, and cannot render obvious the claimed invention.

Accordingly, for all of the above-mentioned reasons, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) should be withdrawn, and the claims 1-4, 6 and 7 should be allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the application is now in a condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. If any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, he is urged to contact Applicant's attorney at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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